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For Immediate Release

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Tropical Storm Malakas Passing Near Woleai in Yap State; Heavy Rain and Gusty Winds Remain Possible for Marianas

The National Weather Service (NWS) Guam Weather Forecast Office continues to monitor Tropical Storm Malakas as it passes near Woleai in Yap State.

As of 7 a.m., the system was located near latitude 6.9 degrees north and longitude 144.2 degrees east longitude, about 40 miles south-southeast of Woleai in Yap State and 455 miles south of Guam. It is currently moving west-northwest at 13 mph with maximum sustained winds of 45 mph. Malakas is expected to resume a northwestward motion later today with little change in forward speed through Sunday. Gradual intensification is expected, with Malakas possibly becoming a typhoon by Monday. The current track takes Malakas near Fais Sunday morning.

Although a direct impact is not expected for the Marianas based on the latest forecast, fresh to strong winds will prevail as Malakas continues to intensify south of Guam. Increased showers and thunderstorms are possible through this weekend and into early next week.

For Guam, 3 to 6 inches of rainfall is possible through Monday as Malakas passes to the southwest and into the Philippine Sea. Locally higher amounts of rainfall are possible. Winds will increase to between 20 and 30 mph Saturday and Sunday, with gusts up to around 35 mph. Those living in flood-prone areas should clear drainage areas and unblock clogged storm drains in the area to minimize flooding.

The following advisories remain in place:

An **airport wind advisory** is in effect for the Guam International Airport until 6 p.m. this evening. Winds from the east at 20 to 25 knots, with frequent gusts up to 35 knots, are expected.

A **high risk of rip currents** remains in effect for Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan through Sunday night. Dangerous rip currents are expected along east facing reefs. Inexperienced swimmers should remain out of the water due to dangerous conditions. If caught in a rip current, do not swim against the current. Swim in a direction following the shoreline, face the shore and call or wave for help.

A **small craft advisory** remains in effect for the coastal waters of Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan until 6 a.m. Monday. East winds of 15 to 25 knots, with gusts up to 35 knots, and seas of 9 to 11 feet are expected. Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid boating in hazardous conditions.

The Offices of Guam Homeland Security and Civil Defense (GHS/OCD), in coordination with NWS, will continue to monitor all systems in the region and provide updates.

Visit the following links for the latest advisory information:

- NWS Website: <https://www.weather.gov/gum/>
- NWS Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NWSGuam/>
- GHS/OCD Website: <https://ghs.guam.gov/>
- GHS/OCD Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GHSOCD/>

For more information, contact GHS/OCD Public Information Officer Jenna G. Blas at (671) 489-2540 or via email at jenna.g.blas@ghs.guam.gov.

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